

## **OPPOSED TO H.B. 7192**

### **AN ACT CONCERNING MUNICIPAL AND REGIONAL OPPORTUNITIES AND EFFICIENCIES**

I write in strong opposition to any form of forced regionalization.

#### **HANDS OFF OUR SCHOOLS**

The forced combining of school districts, loss of local control, additional taxing authorities, and controlling boards will only server to lower great districts performance, will not increase currently performing districts and will fail to produce any cost savings that could be achieved now, without this bill, by voluntary pooling of insurance and purchasing.

Bethel is not like Ridgefield, which is also not like Newtown. We have made investments in infrastructure, and OUR residents deserve to reap the benefits of those hard-fought investments. We already have among the lowest achievement gaps and award winning programs in a town with significantly lower median income than those we would merge with, and they need to rebuild several schools.

Leave us alone! We do NOT need this kind of “help”.

Bill Hillman  
Bethel, CT